# The Place-Based Place-Based of Lace Conference



March 25-27, 2004
Bethel Inn, Bethel, Maine



A regional conference presented by:

- The Northern Forest Center and
- The Center for Place-based Learning and Innovation: A project of
  - Shelburne Farms
  - Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park
  - National Park Service Conservation Study Institute











#### **CONFERENCE SCHEDULE**

#### Thursday, MARCH 25

10:00 AM-12:30 PM Registration 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM **SESSION A:** 

Workshops 1, 2 & 3

12:00-1:00 PM LUNCH (time varies with session)

12:30-4:00 PM Workshop 4

5:00-6:00 PM Registration & room check-in

6:00-7:00 PM DINNER

7:30-8:30 PM Your Place or Mine?

An informal & friendly investigation of individual perspectives!

#### Friday, MARCH 26

7:00-8:30 AM BREAKFAST 8:00-9:00 AM Registration

9:00-10:15 AM Welcoming Activity

This interactive session will include a presentation by David Sobel of Antioch New England Graduate School, author of the recently published book, PLACE-BASED

EDUCATION: CONNECTING CLASSROOMS AND COMMUNITIES.

10:15-10:45 AM Break

10:45 AM-12:15 PM **SESSION B** 

12:15-1:15 PM LUNCH

1:30-3:00 PM **SESSION C** or 1:30-4:45 PM **SESSION E** 

3:00-3:15 PM Break

3:15-4:45 PM **SESSION D** (session E continues)

4:45-5:15 PM Exhibit set-up

5:15-6:30 PM Share Fair with refreshments

6:30-7:30 PM DINNER

8:00-9:00 PM Entertainment: John Bear Mitchell, Wabanaki Singer and Storyteller.

#### Saturday, MARCH 27

7:00-8:15 AM BREAKFAST

8:30-12:00 AM Open Space Sessions. See conference information section for details.

12:00-1:00 PM LUNCH

1:15-2:45 PM SESSION F 3:00-3:30 PM Closing event

#### QUESTIONS?

**Registration**: Heather Cowenhoven, 603-229-0679, hcowenhoven@northernforest.org **Other questions**: Lidie Whittier Robbins, 802-291-9800, lrobbins@northernforest.org;

Pat Straughan, 802-985-8686, pstraughan@shelburnefarms.org

For an electronic version of this brochure: visit www.northernforest.org

Photographs by Shelburne Farms staff and by Andrea Bruce Woodall, reprinted from At Home in the Northern Forest by Laura E. Tam, 2001, with permission from the Northern Forest Center.

**Conference Goals** 

- To link place-based educators and community members into a place-based education network for on-going collaboration and support
- To strengthen our shared vision for the promotion of place-based education through the presentation of current work and philosophies
- To build knowledge and skills through concrete ideas and experiences
- To develop ideas for collectively realizing the promise of place-based education in the Northern Forest Region and beyond.

#### OTHER CONFERENCE INFORMATION

Share Fair Friday, 5:15-6:30 PM

Organizations, program partnerships and individual educators wishing to share their work/units/projects are encouraged to set up an exhibit for the Share Fair. Please see registration form to request table space. Please be prepared to staff your exhibit during Share Fair time: Friday, 5:15-6:30 PM. Setup time is 4:45-5:15 PM.

NOTE: This scheduled time will be the only opportunity to share your exhibit during the conference.

#### Entertainment Friday, 8:00-9:00 PM

Singer and storyteller John Bear Mitchell is a member of the Penobscot Nation on Maine's Indian Island and the Interim Director of the Wabanaki Center at the University of Maine in Orono. For Friday evening's performance, he will combine storytelling, drumming, and humor in the art of communicating Wabanaki messages about the land and animals of Maine. You'll never look at animals and land formations the same way!

#### **Open Space** Saturday, 8:30 AM - 12:00 NOON

Your opportunity to shape our agenda as we create parallel working sessions to tackle the questions you want to ask about place-based education in our region. Use the collective wisdom and expertise in this group to discuss specific challenges and opportunities in this field. (This was a highlight for the majority of last year's conference attendees!)

**Scholarships** Limited scholarships available for those in need. Contact Lidie Whittier Robbins to request an application (Irobbins@northernforest.org).

#### Accommodations

Established in 1913, the Bethel Inn is in the heart of historic Bethel, Maine. The resort's amenities include a fitness center, pool, and 40 km Ski and Snowshoe Center. The Inn is just 6.8 miles from Sunday River Ski Resort. For more information, visit www.bethelinn.com.

#### Other Accommodations in the Area

**Sunday River Inn** 207-824-2410 http://www.sundayriverinn.com/ **Chapman Inn Dorm** 207-824-2657 http://www.chapmaninn.com/

#### **CONFERENCE PARTNERS**



**The Northern Forest Center** is a nonprofit organization established in 1997 to build a public consensus to conserve and enhance the cultural, civic, economic, and ecological wealth of the Northern Forest.



The Center for Place-based Learning and Innovation is a project of

**Shelburne Farms:** a 1,400-acre working farm, nonprofit environmental education organization, and National Historic Landmark whose mission is to cultivate a conservation ethic.



**The Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park:** the only national park to focus on conservation history and the evolving nature of land stewardship in the United States.



**The Conservation Study Institute:** established by the National Park Service to create opportunities for dialogue, inquiry, and life-long learning to enhance the stewardship of parks land-scapes and communities.

#### Additional support provided by...

Antioch New England Graduate School Forest for Every Classroom Green Mountain National Forest Mountain Counties Heritage, Inc. Northern Woodlands Magazine National Wildlife Federation's Northeast Natural Resource Center Rural School & Community Trust Upper Valley Community Foundation

This conference is made possible by the enthusiasm and generous support of all our presenters and advisors.



Place-Based Education in the Northern Forest Region

## Thursday, MARCH 25

SESSION A 11:00 AM -5:00 PM

Includes a break for lunch. You may buy lunch at the Inn, or bring a bag lunch.

#### 1 An Assessment & Evaluation System: The Missing Link to Sustaining High Quality Place-based Education

Julie Bartsch, Rural School and Community Trust; Margaret MacLean, Peacham School, VT and Rural School and Community Trust

Learn about a portfolio-based assessment system, designed by the Rural School and Community Trust in collaboration with Education Testing Service, Harvard University, and nine design teams across the country, that assesses the powerful outcomes of place-based work in both schools and community organizations. This system can serve both as an internal self-assessment process for continuous improvement and an external evaluation system. Participants will engage in a step-by-step process, using evidence and rubrics, to measure the impact of place-based work on learning and the revitalization of communities.

#### 2 Reading the Landscape ◆

Charlotte Clews Lawther, PLACE Program (Shelburne Farms & University of Vermont), VT

This session will introduce three effective frameworks for helping students develop an integrated understanding of the natural forces that have shaped their surrounding landscape. You will acquire useful investigative structures for simplifying the study of complex forested ecosystems, and for understanding landscape change over time. Starting with an indoor presentation of the general pieces, patterns and processes that have shaped the New England terrain and forest cover type, we will then head outside to implement this approach, looking for first-hand evidence in the landscape around us.

#### OUTDOOR COMPONENTS

#### 3 Village Quest ◆

Steve Glazer, Vital Communities, VT

150 years ago, many New England towns were not towns per se, but rather a handful of small villages. Each settlement arose out of particular local circumstances: topography; migration routes; natural resources; and the "starter culture" of early settlers. The patterns – and evidence – of your community's history are still evident in stone foundations, houses, headstones and leather-bound volumes in the Lister's office.

In the Village Quest, students adopt a village in their community, and learn about it through site investigation, primary and secondary source research and collecting oral histories. Students share their learning with the broader community through a published Quest – a treasure hunt revealing a "hidden chapter" of town history. Walk through all of the lessons and steps involved in making a Village Quest as we create a Quest in Bethel Hill Village.

#### 4 Voices of the Working Forest •

Merle Ring, Maine Forest Service; Don Feeney, New England Forestry Foundation; Arlan Jodrey, Tree Farmer; Leon Favreau, Bethel Furniture Stock; Pat Maloney, Maine Project Learning Tree

**Note:** this workshop runs 12:30 - 4:00 PM. Please plan to eat lunch beforehand.

How do a family-owned business, high tech tools, sustainable forestry and the Maine Learning Results all contribute to teaching about the Maine forests? Find out as we hear perspectives from people who play a variety of roles in the working forest. We will tour a local factory – Bethel Furniture Stock; learn about forest management practices with a forester, a logger, and a woodlot owner; and meet with a local teacher who has ventured into forestry with her students. This collaboration could serve as a model for forest study anywhere. (Start at Inn, carpool to Bethel Furniture Stock and return to Inn for final presentation and Q&A session).

## Friday, MARCH 26

SESSION B 10:45 AM - 12:15 PM

#### 5 Using Primary Sources in the Classroom

Kay Morgan, New Hampshire Heritage Project

A key component of a successful community heritage project involves teaching students to read and understand primary source documents (letters, diaries, journals, legal documents, etc.) and interpret primary visual sources (photographs, art, maps). This workshop provides an opportunity for handson learning to develop strategies for helping students use primary sources as part of their research.

#### 6 Launching a Place-Based Education Program in Your Community

Delia Clark, Center for Place-Based Learning & Innovation, VT Explore the key early steps to ensuring the success of your place-based education program. Based on a training module developed by partners of A Forest For Every Classroom, this session includes strategies for building healthy community partnerships, fostering administrative and community support, and selecting local themes and projects appropriate to your curriculum.

#### 7 Program Evaluation as Conversation

Michael Duffin, Program Evaluation and Educational Research Associates, NH

There is no question that doing good program evaluation can be hard work and take significant time and money. But it doesn't have to be painful drudgery! This workshop will explore a couple of key concepts that can be applied to beginning and ongoing evaluations to make the evaluation process more interesting, useful, and perhaps even fun!

#### 8 Global Forces in the Forest Industry

Mark Lorenzo, Northeast Natural Resource Center, National Wildlife Federation, VT

Furniture factory layoffs in the Northern Forest and fatal mudslides in Southeast Asia – what's the connection? Explore how the global trade in forest products increasingly impacts communities and forests

Session B

Session C

Session D

Session E

around the world, including our own. Understand the new tools available to trace wood sources and distinguish among forestry practices, counteracting the growing problems of sale of "conflict-wood", illegal logging and rainforest devastation.

#### 9 The Forest-Water Connection

Kathy Fallon Lambert, Ecologic: Analysis & Communications, VT

This session will provide an overview of the structure and function of forested watersheds, with an emphasis on the role of the forest in controlling water flow and water quality. Special attention will also be given to the effects of disturbance (both human and natural) on the forest-water connection.

## 10 Food, Farms and Nutrition Education on a Community Scale

#### PART 1: COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS AND ACTION

Food Education Every Day Partnership (Foodworks, NOFA-VT, Shelburne Farms), VT

Share effective ideas for engaging your community in food and farming issues through education. Develop strategies for providing relevant, local connections to food production and processing in your surrounding community as you explore your agricultural heritage, identify food resources, organize food councils and more. Forge partnerships with your school food service, local farms and community members to transform your schools' eating habits.

## 11 Parish, Bio-regional, and Community Mapping: Maps with Teeth

Ned Swanberg and Sherry Berrin, Community Mapping Program, Vermont Institute of Natural Science and the Orton Family Foundation, VT

By engaging students and the community in shared experience and visual tools, mapping projects have forged new conceptual, affective, and behavioral attachments between people and place. Through slides and discussion we will look at three models of place-based learning and action.

#### SESSION C 1:30-3:00 PM

# 12 Food, Farms and Nutrition Education on a Community Scale

PART 2: HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES FOR NUTRITION AND AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

Food Education Every Day Partnership (Foodworks, NOFA-VT, Shelburne Farms), VT

Bring local agriculture connections into the classroom as we explore nutrition and farm education within the context of your community's resources. Participate in effective hands-on, age-appropriate curriculum for food and farm education, addressing national issues such as obesity, food security and loss of farms.

#### 13 GPS for Community Mapping •

Sherry Berrin and Ned Swanberg, Community Mapping Program, Vermont Institute of Natural Science and the Orton Family Foundation, VT

Learn how the Community Mapping Program facilitates student fieldwork through Global Positioning Systems (GPS). Whether mapping cellar holes, water quality monitoring sites, or wildlife sign, GPS units can be an important tool for local investigations. Participants will have hands-on time using a GPS unit, and instructors will demonstrate downloading GPS points into ArcView GIS software.

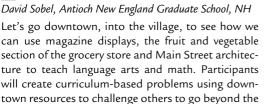
#### SESSION C - listings continued

#### 14 Building Youth and Community Leaders

Bo Hoppin, Project CO-SEED, Antioch New England Institute. NH

Students and local community members can provide outstanding leadership for place-based education. Grounded in experience with Project CO-SEED, this session will explore successful methods for attracting, motivating and training youth and community leaders, and for creating an authorizing environment in the school and community where they can succeed at making positive change.

#### 15 The Town as the Classroom ◆



#### 16 Strategies for Building Strong School-Community Partnerships

Jim Roberts, Washington County Consortium Curriculum Developer, ME; Pam Smith and Linda Church, Jonesport High School, ME; Jonesport, ME Community Leader

Promoting strong school-community connections is at the heart of place-based learning. The impetus for partnering can come from a community organization interested in tapping the social capital of youth or a school wanting to use the community as classroom. Through simulations we will explore strategies for joining diverse stakeholder groups, identifying mutual goals and resources, and sustaining collaborations over time. This interactive workshop will focus on participants' own partnership challenges.

#### 17 Wabanaki History

John Bear Mitchell, Wabanaki Center, Univ. of Maine

The Wabanaki Confederation consists of four tribes from the Eastern Seaboard. Learn about the confederation tribes, their history, and why the confederation was created. Also, we'll look at the Confederation and its culture as it exists today.

#### **SESSION D** 3:15-4:45 PM

textbook into the accessible, nearby world.

### 18 Beyond Illustration:

Participatory Place-based Arts Practice 

June Lacombe, Environmental Educator and artist, ME

This participatory workshop introduces ways to celebrate place through a reflective sculptural arts practice. Participants will work individually or in small groups to develop art projects in site-specific outdoor settings. Some materials will be collected on site and a range of others will be provided.

#### 19 Educational Partnerships for Public Lands

Patti Reilly, NPS Northeast Center for Education Services; Rolf Diamant, Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park; Haven Neal, Consulting Forester for Town of Gorham, NH; Deb Ciampolillo, Rachel Marshall Outdoor Learning Laboratory; Delia Clark (moderator)

Whether a neighborhood park, a town forest or a national park, public lands provide ideal opportunities for place-based learning and project development. This session will feature national and local perspectives from successful projects on how to balance educational and conservation needs to build partnerships that work for the students, the community and the land.

## 20 Using Architecture to Teach Local History, Culture, Change, and Visual Literacy ◆

Steven Engelhart, Adirondack Architectural Heritage, NY The architecture, streetscapes, open spaces, and other aspects of a typical northern village offer great opportunities for teaching people of all ages about community traditions, culture, change, history, and design. During this walking tour of Bethel village we will discuss how to use the community to teach these and other topics.

# 21 No Place Left Behind: Building Authentic Place-based Education in your School

Amy Demarest, PLACE Program (Shelburne Farms & University of Vermont), VT

Federal mandates pose challenges to the innovative, experiential learning that is essential for connecting students to their communities. This session, designed for teachers, administrators and other change agents, will explore the challenges and opportunities for implementing PBE in K-12 settings. Through dialogue and activities we will explore strategies that link curriculum and PLACE in meaningful (and measurable!) ways.

#### 22 Teaching Native American Studies

John Bear Mitchell, Wabanaki Center, Univ. of Maine

A Maine law was passed requiring the teaching of Wabanaki Studies in the state's school curriculum. In this workshop, you'll learn some simple methods for teaching Wabanaki and other Native American Studies. Resource evaluation, sample lesson plans, and handouts will be available.

#### 23 Glacial Geology

Willard Morgan, Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources, University of Vermont

The Northern Forest is a glacial landscape. About 10,000 years ago, vast ice sheets left their legacy in landforms and surficial (between bedrock and soil) deposits that influence many natural and cultural patterns we see today. Use tools that range from continent-scale maps to small-scale observations to unravel the local glacial history and understand how that story expresses itself today. Tools are transferable to understanding the glacial legacy of your home community.

#### SESSION E 1:30-4:45 PM - runs concurrently with Sessions C & D

#### 24 Oral History in the Classroom

Pamela Dean, Maine Folklife Center

This workshop will cover the basics of planning and conducting oral history projects in middle and secondary school classes. Topics will include project selection; conducting background research; training students to conduct interviews; fulfilling curriculum requirements; equipment; transcribing and indexing tapes; and sharing work through final products such as a books, magazines, videos, and public presentations.

## 25 Writing Home: Tools for Writing One's Way into Fidelity to Place

Elizabeth (Ibit) Wright Getchell, University of Vermont Environmental Program

Explore the process of using writing as a means to build or maintain a sense of place and to develop deep connection and commitment to places, storied with experiences and affection. We'll exchange ideas, discuss short readings, write, share resources, and explore ways to become more conscious, reflective, and motivated inhabitants in our home places.

## Saturday, MARCH 27

#### **SESSION F** 1:15-2:45 PM

#### **26** Community Treasure Hunts

Steve Glazer, Vital Communities, VT

Our communities are made up of treasures: cultural sites like cemeteries and mills, natural sites like farms, forests and wetlands. These treasures can be "adopted" and studied by student groups - with explorations enriched by primary and secondary sources and discussions with community elders. Student learning can be synthesized and published as a treasure hunt that shares this knowledge with the broader community. This workshop introduces Questing, a compelling method for adopting, studying and sharing community treasures.

#### 27 Beyond the Bucket •

Tre McCarney and Peter Bullock, Shelburne Farms, VT

Tap deep into a participatory exploration of the

Tap deep into a participatory exploration of the science, art and magic of maple sugaring! Enrich your students' awareness of this regional phenomenon by developing a dynamic learning experience through these multidisciplinary hands-on activities and experiments. Useful for strengthening and extending a visit to a sugarhouse in your community, or enhancing an existing unit.

## 28 Recent Findings in Place-based Education Evaluation

Michael Duffin and Bo Hoppin, Antioch New England Institute; Megan Camp, Shelburne Farms; Ned Swanberg, Vermont Institute of Natural Science; Liz Soper, National Wildlife Federation; Kevin Peterson, Upper Valley Community Foundation

The Place-based Education Evaluation Collaborative (PEEC) is a partnership between the organizational sponsors of four place-based education programs in New England that have pooled their program evaluation efforts. This workshop will explore what each program is finding and connect those findings to the broader field of EE research.

#### 29 Facilitating Productive Meetings

Delia Clark, Center for Place-Based Learning and Innovation, VT

The more we reach out into the community, bringing diverse perspectives together in the interest of good place-based education, the more time we spend in meetings. This session will offer a range of practical strategies, tools and guidelines for using time efficiently, working toward a common purpose, and achieving concrete outcomes.

# 30 Planning and Implementing Effective Service Learning Projects ◆

Paul Bocko, Antioch New England Institute; Bill Church, Littleton High School, NH

Locally focused and personally relevant service-learning projects can boost student achievement and lead to long-term community and environmental stewardship behavior and positive school-community relations. This session will demonstrate how to use community contacts and student inquiry-investigation to initiate an appropriate project and how to use the project as an integrating context for your curriculum.

#### 31 Leafless, but not Lifeless •

Jenn Barton, Field naturalist, ME

Although leafless, trees are far from lifeless in winter. Our favorite Northern Forest species use a variety of adaptations to endure the season and then to burst forth with greenery in spring. We'll venture outside, observing woody plants, discussing the often miraculous mechanisms they use to survive winter, and learning how to identify common trees by their buds and twigs alone – so that you can continue observing their winter story in your own place. Please bring a hand lens if you have one.



Place-Based Education in the Northern Forest Region

March 25-27, 2004 Bethel Inn, Bethel, ME

## REGISTRATION FORM ONE Registrant per form. Photocopy for others. REGISTRANT: Affiliation (agency, organization, school, etc.):\_\_\_\_\_ Work Address: Town/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Overnight Conference Packages ☐ Thursday & Friday Nights Package: ..... \$269 3 days, 2 nights: includes all meals and breaks, Thursday dinner through Saturday lunch; double occupancy accommodations; and 2-day registration fee. (Price does not include Thursday workshops or lunch.) ☐ Friday Night Package: ..... \$216 2 days, 1 night: includes all meals and breaks, Friday lunch through Saturday lunch; Double occupancy accommodations; and 2-day registration fee **SUB-TOTAL** Commuter Registration Use this section only if you are not staying overnight. Thursday Registration (Does not include workshop fee. See below) . . . . . \$10 Meals (includes 7% tax & 18% gratuity) ☐ Saturday Breakfast .....\$9 **SUB-TOTAL** Thursday Workshops Choose one workshop if you plan on attending Thursday. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Other Presenter Discount (to be arranged with conference coordinators) . . . subtract Scholarship (application required - available upon request) .....subtract ☐ Your contribution to scholarship fund (tax deductible) . . . . . . . . add

**TOTAL for CONFERENCE** 



# REGISTRATION FORM continued

Payment Information	
Check: Payable to Northern Forest Co	enter
□Visa □MC	
Card Number:	Expires: /
Signature:	
Purchase Order - Number:	purchase order must be included with registration form.
Nonrefundable \$30 administrative fee for all cancellations. Sorry, no refunds available after March 10, 2004.	
Additional Information	
For All Overnight Participants: smoking nonsmoking room  For Overnight Participants with Double Occupancy:  Usual like to share a room with: Name:	
Shared bed: ☐yes ☐ no	
☐ Please choose a roommate for me: ☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ smoking ☐ nonsmoking	
Meals: Please indicate if vegetarian: ☐ ovo-lacto ☐ vegan	
<b>Exhibit Space:</b> Please reserve free exhibit space for me at the Share Fair ( <i>Please staff your exhibit.</i> ) whole table  half table	
Workshop Selection	
Please write the number of the workshop you prefer to attend for each session on Friday & Saturday. Please indicate first and second choices. (It may be possible to make some changes at the conference)	
Session B:  1st choice 2nd choice	
Session C:  1st choice 2nd choice  Or	Session E:  1st choice 2nd choice
Session D:  1st choice 2nd choice	ist choice—zha choice
Session F:  1st choice 2nd choice	

#### **REGISTRATION DEADLINE!**

Return completed form with payment by **March 1, 2004** to: **Promise of Place**Northern Forest Center • PO Box 210 • Concord, NH • 03302-0210 • Fax: 603-229-1719

For possible late registration (rooms may be unavailable), call Heather Cowenhoven at: 603-229-0679.